

1. Based upon applicants' submissions and remarks of 7/6/07 and 11/21/07, the prior ground of rejection has been overcome. The finality of the last office action is withdrawn in view of the following:

2. Claims 1, 3, and 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura et al. (6,743,850). The reference discloses an ink jet recording sheet comprising at least one cationic polymer which may be a polymer in accordance with instant formulas (1) and (2), inorganic particles, water soluble resin, crosslinking agent and mordant as instantly claimed (see col. 2, line 47 to col. 5, line 51). For particulars of the polymers, see also, col. 5, line 55 to col. 30, line 10, in particular, col. 6, lines 5-47. The method of forming the colorant accepting layer is recited in col. 5, lines 40-51. Since the cationic resin can be the same as that instantly claimed, the reference discloses resins having the properties of I/O value and cation equivalent in accordance with applicants' claim. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to determine materials in accordance with the disclosure of the reference so that an ink jet recording element having desired properties such as superior ink receptivity is obtained.

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3, 6-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pamela Schwartz whose telephone number is (571) 272-1528.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano, can be reached on (571) 272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Pamela R. Schwartz/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794

PRSchwartz  
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